

**IN THE CLAIMS**

**Please delete claims 2, 23-30, 35-39 and 46-56.**

**Please amend claim 1 as follows:**

c.1

1. (Amended) A process for the crystallization of xylitol, comprising

- contacting a liquid containing dissolved xylitol at a concentration of 30-80 % by weight with gas suspended fine solid particles containing microcrystalline xylitol;
- causing substantial removal of the solvent component of said liquid and allowing the resulting xylitol material to form an essentially solid composition of matter comprising a multitude of microcrystals of xylitol; and
- causing said xylitol composition to be conditioned during a further drying step to provide a product consisting essentially throughout its entire structure of a multitude of microcrystals of xylitol agglomerated together in a random matter.